One time fees for Cable TV

318. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has recommended one time fees for cable TV, DTH, STD, STD/ISD and radio through a single licence fee besides entry fees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendation has been accepted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has submitted its recommendations for Unified Access Services which *inter alia* include single licence fee besides entry fees for Cable TV, DTHp. The recommendations are under consideration and no final decision has been taken so far.

Illegal rerouting of International Calls

319. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether TRAI ADC Order of 6th January, 2005, argued that by reducing ILD ADC for incoming calls the issue of gray market shall be addressed;

(b) if so, whether DoT accepts this;

(c) what is the total loss caused thus far from illegal rerouting of international calls;

(d) the basis thereof;

(e) whether TRAI is in a position to provide DoT total volume of incoming ILD minutes generated by Indian ILDOs with foreign carriers and their own affiliates overseas;

(f) does this amount correspond with total number of ILD minutes terminated in India for each financial year beginning 1st May, 2003; and

(g) the details thereof, years-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) TRAI has issued an Interconnection Usage charge Regulation on 6.1.2005 wherein it has been stated that:

* "ADC on international calls will be reduced to lower the margin, which encourages arbitrage through grey market traffic.
* All ADC from incoming international long distance calls irrespective of terminating network to be paid by ILDOs to BSNL only.
* ADC on outgoing international long distance calls to be kept lower than ADC applicable on incoming ILD calls so that advantage of ADC reduction benefits Indian consumers more."

(b) According to Department of Telecommunications, Grey traffic would be addressed by package of measures including changing the arbitrage opportunity available to the illegal international call providers, stronger monitoring and penalty mechanism.

(c) and (d) As per analysis of Call Data Records 7,52,31,022 minutes of international calls were unauthorisedly rerouted by M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. during the period 24th May 2004 to 16th Sept. 2004. As per provisions of the Interconnect Agreements, BSNL and MTNL have raised bills amounting to Rs. 263.4 crores and Rs. 341.28 crores respectively. M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. has paid Rs. 182.7 crores to BSNL and Rs. 111.80 crores to MTNL. It has also filed petitions against BSNL and MTNL in the High Court of Delhi and at present, the matter is *subjudice*.

(e) TRAI's existing formats for international traffic gathers information on monthly basis only on total inbound minutes (terminating in India) and total outbound minutes (originated from India) as reported by the India ILDO.

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of (e) above.